



# Renton City News

RENTON. AHEAD OF THE CURVE.

Spring 2011

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Two Farmers Markets To Open This Summer In Renton

This summer there are two great farmers market choices in Renton. The Renton Farmers Market celebrates its 10th year with the Tuesday market at the Piazza starting June 7, from 3 to 7 p.m. New this year is the Farmers Market at Valley Medical Center (VMC) on Sundays starting June 12, from noon to 4 p.m. in the VMC parking lot. Meet you at the Market!

### Renton Airport is "Most-Female-Pilot-Friendly Airport" in U.S.



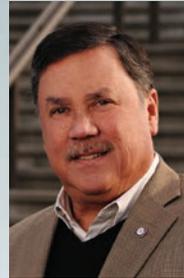
Commercial airline pilot Karlene Petitt recently presented Mayor Denis Law and the Renton City Council with the Centennial of Women Pilots award for the "Most Female-Pilot-Friendly Airport" in the United States. Renton pilots flew 407 flights from December 5, 2010 to January 31, 2011, in an effort to introduce girls and women to flying. Petitt and other Renton pilots also set the current world record for the most females introduced to flying by doing 173 flights in one day at one location December 5, 2010.

### Registration Now Open For Return To Renton Car Show and Cruise-In

The 21st Annual "Return To Renton" Benefit Car Show and Cruise-In returns to downtown Renton July 10, beginning at 10 a.m. with awards presented at 3 p.m. The event includes vehicle displays, music and entertainment, industry product displays and vendors, kid's activities, food and raffle prizes. Pre-register before June 15 and receive a free t-shirt. For more information visit [GoRenton.com](http://GoRenton.com) or call 425-430-7589.

## CELEBRATE OUR VOLUNTEERS

April is Volunteer Month and I want to take this opportunity to celebrate the spirit of volunteerism that defines our community. Renton has a long, rich history of community service and volunteerism. At the core of our community are over 4,000 volunteers who symbolize the spirit of working together. They contribute thousands of hours in various volunteer positions and are vital to our community. Some of our volunteers have served for over 35 years.



clubs and local business owners who are always ready to volunteer, provide generous donations, and help meet some of the growing needs in our community.

We have numerous stories of volunteers who have made a difference. A few examples are:

Community volunteers who roll up their sleeves to help maintain our parks by removing invasive plants and litter, raking leaves, cleaning signs, and scrubbing picnic tables; Community Emergency Response Team members who are trained and ready to serve if disaster strikes; customer service volunteers who provide information and referral to visitors at City Hall; and the numerous volunteers who participate as members of a board, commission, committee or task force.

Much of the progress we have made over the years has been made possible because so many people have pride in our city and are fully engaged in our goal of improving the quality of life for every resident of Renton. Volunteers play a crucial role in supporting and expanding the services we provide. They are a vital conduit between the community and City Hall, as they give us valuable feedback and direction.

Volunteering is fun, interesting, and a way to meet lots of wonderful people with similar interests. If you would like to volunteer please call Community Services at 425-430-6600, or visit [rentonwa.gov](http://rentonwa.gov).

In Renton, we are also very fortunate to have the dedication and generosity of service

## SIFF BRINGS THE WORLD OF FILM TO RENTON — MAY 20-26, 2011

The Seattle International Film Festival (SIFF) has added Renton as a venue in 2011. Screenings will take place May 20-26 at the IKEA Performing Arts Center. A special Opening Night Screening will take place in Renton on May 20, with a gala following at the Renton Pavilion Event Center.

*"Hosting SIFF in Renton will help build on Renton's economic momentum, help bring visitors and business to Renton and allow us to showcase our thriving arts and culture scene."*

— Mayor Denis Law

SIFF in Renton is sponsored by the Renton Community Marketing Campaign, a partnership between the City of Renton, Renton School District, Renton Technical College, Valley Medical Center, Renton Chamber of Commerce, and Renton Visitors Connection. In addition, the SIFF-Renton Host Committee, a group of civic, arts and community leaders with co-chairs Meeghan

Black, host of KING 5's "Evening Magazine," and Brad Brotherton, President, Brotherton Cadillac Buick GMC, is helping promote the festival in Renton.

Official SIFF dates and programming will be announced at a later date. Those interested in volunteering at any of SIFF's venues can sign up at [www.siff.net](http://www.siff.net).

# “Earth Day ...

## CELEBRATE EARTH DAY, ARBOR DAY

This month, we celebrate Earth Day and Arbor Day on Saturday, April 30, 2011, and honor our commitment to future generations. Arbor Day is celebrated to promote the planting and care of trees. Planting trees is one of the most effective ways to protect the environment. Earth Day is a time to unite and take action to protect our planet.

Renton’s Arbor Day/Earth Day celebration is a great opportunity to have fun and do our part to reduce our impact on our environment. Join hundreds of volunteers at Gene Coulon Memorial Beach Park, 1201 Lake Washington Blvd. N., to plant trees and shrubs, spread landscaping chips, and clean areas in the park and along the shoreline to promote a healthy environment.

To register, contact the Community Services Department at 425-430-6600. Volunteers should dress for the weather. Minors must have parental permission. Children 14 years and under must be accompanied by an adult/guardian. Check-in begins at 9 a.m. at the north picnic shelter. Event is from 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

## Protecting Our Environment

### Shredathon April 30

Join us at Sam’s Club parking lot at 901 S Grady Way for a FREE document shredding event on Saturday, April 30. Documents will be accepted for shredding from 9 a.m. to noon (or until shredder is full). Bring up to five boxes containing paper documents to be destroyed in a truck-mounted shredder. Boxes should be no more than 12 to 15 inches deep and 10 inches high, or bring the amount of paper that would fit in a box that size. Documents are limited to household papers.

Iron Mountain will provide the shredding services and the Renton Police Department will provide information related to identity theft. Donations of canned goods and non-perishable food items will be accepted for the Renton Food Bank. This event is co-sponsored by the City of Renton, Renton Police Department, Sam’s Club and Iron Mountain. For details go to [rentonwa.gov](http://rentonwa.gov) and search “shredathon,” or call 425-430-7520.

City Hosts Spring Recycling Event Sunday, May 8  
Twice a year the City of Renton holds a

citywide recycling event at Renton Technical College, recycling everything from motor oil to scrap metal, tires and household appliances. The next recycling event will take place May 8 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Call Solid Waste Utility at 425-430-7396 for more information.



### Green and Clean Saturday

Join us for the Spring Green and Clean program, Saturday, May 15, 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. at Heritage Park, 233 Union Avenue NE. Check in begins at 9 a.m. Register now and bring your family. Children under 14 must be accompanied by an adult/guardian. Call 425-430-6600 for more information or to register.



### Stewards Sought For City’s Adopt-A-Park Program

Local businesses, community service groups, church groups, youth groups with adult supervision, neighborhood groups, and clubs can all help enhance and maintain a park by making a commitment to become stewards of a park. Stewardship responsibilities can include: litter pick-up, weeding, mulching, planting, and more. Because each park has different needs, specific expectations will be discussed with park staff after a project has been approved.

Our Adopt-A-Park program is a one-day or annual event for businesses, clubs, or organizations who want to dig in and make

# is Every Day.”

— Author Unknown

*“The city encourages all citizens to plant trees and join in the celebration to promote nature’s well-being for this and future generations. The Arbor Day event is an opportunity to bring the community together for the environment.”*

*— Mayor Denis Law*

a difference. You bring the volunteers, we’ll bring the tools. Call 425-430-6600 to get involved.

### Helpful Hints to Grow Great Gardens and Conserve Water

With Spring upon us, it’s time to prepare your gardens for the season. To help save money on water bills while growing healthy plants, here are some helpful tips:

- Moisten the whole root zone, then let the soil dry out before watering again.
- Make every drop count by mulching, using soaking hoses and water timers, and watering only in the early morning or evening to reduce evaporation.
- Don’t water if it has rained recently.
- Let the rain soak in. Direct downspouts out into lawns or beds. Use open pavers.

### City Recycling Program Most Comprehensive in Region

The City of Renton’s recycling program is one of the most comprehensive in the region and the country. Since the new program was

launched in 2009, Renton residents have made significant changes in their habits and have diverted over 70% of their recyclable material from the landfill.



### New Waste Management Trucks Cleaner and Greener

The entire fleet of trucks that collect recycling, food waste, and garbage in Renton were recently converted to use compressed natural gas, making them cleaner and quieter. The trucks will deliver distinct environmental benefits to Renton, including nearly zero air particulate and 23 percent fewer greenhouse gas emissions. The engines also run quieter than traditional diesel engines, resulting in quieter trucks and less noise in neighborhoods and business districts.

### City To Install Public Charging Stations Throughout Renton

The city will soon be installing thirteen public charging stations for electric vehicles in various parts of Renton. This effort sets the stage to help residents save energy and money, help boost green technology, and advance environmental and public health, energy security, and economic development.

### Renton Receives Tree City USA Growth Award

Trees provide numerous environmental, social and economic benefits for people, yet urban areas present challenging environments for trees to grow and survive in. The city recently completed the urban forestry plan to help manage and protect the tree canopy in Renton, and for the third year in a row, the city received Tree City USA recognition.



## GRILL SAFETY TIPS

Spring has sprung and that means warm weather and backyard barbecues are just around the corner. Before you fire up the grill, carefully clean it and check for any damaged parts. Remember propane and charcoal BBQ grills should only be used outdoors.



To help prevent fires, keep grills away from structures, deck railings and out from under eaves and overhanging branches. Barbecue grills get very hot; keep children and pets out of the grill area for their safety. Follow these tips to keep your family safe from grilling accidents or injuries. For more barbecue safety tips, go to [rentonwa.gov](http://rentonwa.gov).

## EARTHQUAKES: ARE YOU PREPARED?

The Pacific Northwest is earthquake country. At any time we could experience a "great quake" just like the one we witnessed in Japan.

To protect yourself during an earthquake, "Drop Cover Hold":

- **Drop** – underneath a piece of sturdy furniture.
- **Cover** – the back of your head and neck with one arm.
- **Hold** – hold on so you can move with your cover.

Protect yourself in advance by securing the contents in your home and office to reduce the danger of them falling or tipping over during the shaking. After an earthquake, electric, water, sewer, and phone systems



**Practice "Drop Cover Hold" during the statewide earthquake drill on April 20, 9:45 a.m.**

could be disrupted, and food and pharmacy supplies may be unavailable. Plan ahead to make sure you have the necessary extra supplies on hand to survive until help arrives, which can be several days.

For information on preparedness steps to take now, go to [rentonwa.gov](http://rentonwa.gov) and search for "be prepared."

## CITY CONTACTS

Area Code 425

<b>General Information</b> .....	430-6400
<b>Mayor</b> .....	430-6500
<b>City Council</b> .....	430-6501
<b>Municipal Court Judge</b> .....	430-6550
<b>Chief Administrative Officer</b> .....	430-6500
<b>City Clerk</b> .....	430-6510
<b>Code Enforcement</b> .....	430-7373
<b>Community Services</b> .....	430-6600
<b>Community &amp; Economic Development</b> .....	430-6580
<b>Finance &amp; Information Services</b> .....	430-6850
<b>Fire/Emergency Services</b> .....	430-7000
<b>Graffiti Reporting Line</b> .....	430-7373
<b>Human Resources &amp; Risk Management</b> .....	430-7650
<b>Public Works</b> .....	430-7394
<b>Police</b> .....	430-7500
or <a href="http://epolice.rentonwa.gov">epolice.rentonwa.gov</a>	
<b>Street/Water/Sewer Maint.</b> .....	430-7400
<b>Utility Billing</b> .....	430-6852

**EMERGENCY ..... 911**

 **The City of Renton provides reasonable accommodation upon request.**

**TDD.. 711 (425-430-6511)**

[rentonwa.gov](http://rentonwa.gov)

[RentonCityNews@rentonwa.gov](mailto:RentonCityNews@rentonwa.gov)

## OUT IN THE COMMUNITY

### Friday, April 15

**Flashlight Egg Hunts.** 8 to 9 p.m. Liberty Park. Free to ages 7-10 and 11-15. Two separate nighttime egg hunts. Bring flashlight and a sack to carry all your goodies.

### Saturday, April 23

**Community Garage Sale.** 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Renton Community Center, 1715 SE Maple Valley Highway. Spaces are limited so pre-registration is required. Call 425-430-6700.

**Downtown Renton Clean-Up.** 9 a.m. to noon. Throughout downtown Renton. Call 425-430-6589 to register.

### Saturday, April 30

**Spring Shredathon.** 9 a.m. to noon. Sam's Club parking lot, 901 S. Grady Way.

**Arbor Day/Earth Day.** Check-in begins at 9 a.m. activities from 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Gene Coulon Memorial Beach Park, 1201 Lake Washington Blvd. N. Call 425-430-6600 to register.

### Sunday, May 1

**Renton Youth Symphony Orchestra Spring Concert.** 3 to 4 p.m. Carco Theatre, 1717 SE Maple Valley Highway. Call 425-430-6700 for more information.

### Saturday, May 7

**Spring Recycle Day.** 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Renton Technical College, North Parking Lot, NE 6th Place & Monroe Avenue NE. For more information call the information line at 425-430-7398.

**Renton History Museum Speaker Series.** 11 a.m. Renton History Museum, 235 Mill Avenue S. "Wild and Watery Tales and Tunes" by storyteller & musician Karen Haas. Call 425-255-2330.

**Downtown Renton Poker Tour.** Noon to 4 p.m. Piazza Park, 3rd & Burnett. Call 425-430-6589 for details.

### Tuesday, May 10

**Renton History Museum Speaker Series.** 5 p.m. Renton History Museum, 235 Mill Avenue S. "Reading Between The Lines: The Stories Old Buildings Tell Us" by Michael Herschensohn. Call 425-255-2330.

### Thursday, May 12

**Renton Senior Activity Center Stage Revue.** 1 p.m. Carco Theatre, 1717 SE Maple Valley Highway. Tickets are required. Call 425-430-6633.

### Friday, May 13

**Renton Senior Activity Center Stage Revue.** 1 p.m. Carco Theatre, 1717 SE Maple Valley Highway. Tickets are required. Call 425-430-6633.

### Saturday, May 14

**Green and Clean Saturday.** 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. Heritage Park, 233 Union Avenue NE. Check-in begins at 9 a.m. Call 425-430-6600 to register.

**Trail Safety Awareness Event.** 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Ron Regis Park, 1501 Orcas Avenue SE.

### Friday-Thursday, May 20-26

**Seattle International Film Festival.** Screening times will be announced at a later date. Renton IKEA Performing Arts Center. For more information visit [siff.net](http://siff.net).

### Saturday, May 21

**Steppin' Together Dance Recital.** 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 p.m. Hazen High School. Call 425-430-6700 for tickets.

**For more information visit [rentonwa.gov](http://rentonwa.gov)**